

Assemblyman PAUL KORETZ

Forty-second Assembly District

proudly representing the communities of West Hollywood, Beverly Hills, Los Angeles, Century City, Westwood, Bel Air, Brentwood, West Los Angeles, Hollywood, Hancock Park, Universal City, Studio City, and Sherman Oaks



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KORETZ RESPONDS TO SETTLEMENT OF UFCW STRIKE

(Sacramento) - Assemblyman Paul Koretz (D-West Hollywood), Chairman of the Assembly Labor & Employment Committee, today commented on the recent settlement reached in the five-month long UFCW strike in Southern California.

"I congratulate the UFCW and their hardworking members on their successful efforts to resolve the largest and longest strike in the history of the supermarket industry. I particularly commend the men and women who sacrificed so much in walking the picket lines every day and night for five months. This was a difficult time for each member, but their sacrifice and determination has served as a rallying cry for workers across the nation struggling in the battle to protect health care benefits," said Assemblyman Koretz.

The settlement agreement, which was negotiated over the course of two weeks in round-the-clock negotiation sessions, was ratified by 86% of the membership of all seven UFCW Local Unions over the weekend.

"I hope that the strike has served as a wake-up call for the supermarket industry and employers in general. The extreme and drastic demands proposed by the industry to effectively eliminate affordable health care made this strike unavoidable. However, the workers and the unions rose to the challenge. For five months the picket lines remained strong and the membership stayed united in solidarity. It is my hope that the industry and employers have learned their lesson and will more carefully consider their bargaining positions in future negotiations," commented Koretz.

Koretz also commented on the broad level of support the workers received during the strike, adding, "This successful outcome would not have been possible without the support of the rest of the labor movement and the customers who did the right thing and honored the picket lines during the dispute. They are all owed a debt of gratitude by working Californians."

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